

**Appl. No. 10/674,923**  
**Amdt. dated October 26, 2004**  
**Reply to Office action of July 30, 2004**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:  
a device; and  
a laptop computer coupled to said device by way of a communication bus operated under a communication protocol, the communication bus comprising communication lines and power lines;  
wherein the device determines if the laptop computer is capable of being powered across the power lines of the communication bus by communication with the laptop across the power lines of said communication bus.
- 2.-9. (Canceled).
10. (Previously presented) In a computer system comprising a laptop computer adapted to dock to a docking station by way of a USB interface, a method of operating said computer system comprising:  
powering said laptop computer from said docking station across said USB interface with a voltage in excess of five volts.
- 11.-19. (Canceled).
20. (Previously presented) A docking station for mating with a laptop computer comprising:  
a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface having data signal lines and power rails that couple to the laptop computer; and  
a docking logic that provides power to said laptop over the power rails of the USB interface at a voltage of greater than five volts.

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21.-24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently amended) The computer system as defined in claim 24-26 wherein the device further comprises a docking station.

26. (Currently amended) A computer system, comprising:  
a device having power available therein;  
a laptop computer coupled to said device by way of a communication bus  
that, in a first mode, operates under the ~~The computer system as~~  
~~defined in claim 24 wherein the communication protocol further~~  
~~comprises a Universal Serial Bus (USB) protocol; and~~  
in a second mode of operation said laptop computer powered by said  
device across the power lines of said communication bus.

27. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the laptop computer is capable of providing power to external devices across the communication bus when the laptop is not coupled to the device.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising powering the laptop computer from the docking station across the USB interface with substantially 18 volts.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising shutting off power to the communication bus when a laptop computer is detached from the docking station.

30. (New) A method comprising:  
powering downstream devices by power rails of a bus interface of a laptop computer, the bus interface operated in compliance with the Universal Serial Bus (USB) protocol, and the powering in a first mode of operation; and

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accepting, in a second mode of operation, power by the laptop computer  
on the power rails of the bus interface.

31. (New) The method as defined in claim 30 further comprising accepting  
power from a docking station on the power rails of the bus interface.

32. (New) The method as defined in claim 30 further comprising accepting  
power at a voltage in excess of five volts.

33. (New) The method as defined in claim 32 further comprising accepting  
power at a voltage level of substantially 18 volts.